

LISTING OF AND AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS:

1. (previously presented) An apparatus for washing at least one item, comprising;

a frame;

an endless pocket;

said frame comprising a stiffener disposed within said endless pocket, the stiffener having a length exceeding that of said endless pocket, so that ends of said stiffener overlap each other within said endless pocket; and

a flow through mesh on the frame which allows washing fluid to freely flow to and from the item being washed;

said apparatus having an opening through which the at least one item to be washed can be placed into and removed from said apparatus.

2. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the frame has an oval shape when viewed from its bottom.

3. (original) The apparatus claim 1, further comprising a closing apparatus for closing the opening.

4. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 3, wherein said closing apparatus comprises one of a zipper, a slide seal Ziplock® arrangement, and a fabric fastener.

5. (original) The apparatus of claim 4, wherein said closing apparatus comprises a zipper, further comprising a pocket for a zipper pull of the zipper, the pocket being sized, shaped and positioned so that when in the closed position, the zipper pull is hidden, the zipper will remain closed, and the zipper pull will not damage items outside the enclosure.

6. - 8. (canceled).

9. (previously presented) An apparatus for washing at least one item, comprising;

a frame;

an endless pocket;

said frame comprising a stiffener disposed within said pocket, said stiffener having a length exceeding that of the endless pocket, so that ends of the stiffener overlap each other within the endless pocket, said stiffener having a flexible peripheral shape so that flexing of said stiffener provides a pumping action to assist in circulating washing fluid through said apparatus; and

a flow through mesh on the frame which allows the washing fluid to freely flow to and from the item being washed;

said apparatus having an opening through which the at least one item to be washed can be placed into and removed from said apparatus.

10. (canceled).

11. (canceled).

12. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 9, further comprising a closing apparatus for closing the opening.

13. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein said closing apparatus comprises one of a zipper, a slide seal Ziplock® arrangement, and a fabric fastener.

14. (original) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein said closing apparatus comprises a zipper, further comprising a pocket for a zipper pull of the zipper, the pocket being sized, shaped and positioned so that when in the closed position, the zipper pull is hidden, the zipper will remain closed, and the zipper pull will not damage items outside the enclosure.

15. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the frame has an oval shape when viewed from its bottom.

16. (original) The apparatus claim 9, further comprising a zipper for closing the opening.

17. - 24. (canceled).

25. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, configured to have a dome shape when viewed from its end, and a generally semicircular shape when viewed from its side.

26. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 9, configured to have a dome shape when viewed from its end, and a generally semicircular shape when viewed from its side.

27. (previously presented) An apparatus for washing at least one item, comprising;

a frame;

an endless pocket;

said frame comprising a stiffener disposed within said endless pocket, the stiffener having a length exceeding that of said endless pocket, said stiffener being configured so that a first end of said stiffener moveably telescopes within a second end of said stiffener; and

a flow through mesh on the frame which allows washing fluid to freely flow to and from the item being washed;

said apparatus having an opening through which the at least one item to be washed can be placed into and removed from said apparatus.

28. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 27, having a dome shape when viewed from its end, and a generally semicircular shape when viewed from its side.

29. (previously presented) The apparatus claim 27, wherein said stiffener has a flexible peripheral shape so that flexing of said stiffener provides a pumping action to assist in circulating washing fluid through said apparatus.

30. (new) The apparatus claim 1, wherein said mesh comprises an open weave nylon; and a polyester mesh having a continuous array of closely spaced opening.

31. (new) The apparatus of claim 30, wherein said openings are substantially 1.0 millimeter in diameter.

32. (new) The apparatus of claim 30, wherein said open weave nylon and said polyester mesh are nip rolled together under heat and pressure.

33. (new) The apparatus claim 9, wherein said mesh comprises an open weave nylon; and a polyester mesh having a continuous array of closely spaced opening.

34. (new) The apparatus of claim 33, wherein said openings are substantially 1.0 millimeter in diameter.

35. (new) The apparatus of claim 33, wherein said open weave nylon and said polyester mesh are nip rolled together under heat and pressure.

36. (new) The apparatus claim 27, wherein said mesh comprises an open weave nylon; and a polyester mesh having a continuous array of closely spaced opening.

37. (new) The apparatus of claim 36, wherein said openings are substantially 1.0 millimeter in diameter.

38. (new) The apparatus of claim 36, wherein said open weave nylon and said polyester mesh are nip rolled together under heat and pressure.